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Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 06540 151828Z

46
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 DOTE-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-07 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 /087 W
---------- 005093
R 151735Z NOV 73
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6026
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD, GB, ETRN
SUBJ: TRANSGABON RAILROAD -- BIDDING ELIGIBILITY

REFS: A. STATE 224651
B. LIBREVILLE 990
C. LIBREVILLE 1000
D. EC BRUSSELS 6300

1. ON NOVEMBER 15, A MISSION OFFICER RAISED WITH THE FED U.S. CONCERNS RE BIDDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE TRANSGABON RAILROAD (SEE REFTELS A, B AND C). THE FED IS AWARE OF THE PROBLEM AND, FROM WHAT WE WERE TOLD, IS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. POSITION THAT BIDDING SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO DONOR COUNTRIES. THIS ISSUE, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN MADE MORE COMPLICATED IN THE FED'S VIEW BY CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS RUMORS OF JAPANESE INTEREST IN THE RAIROAD PROJECT (REF D) AND THE APPARENT INTEREST OF OTHER POTENTIAL DONOR COUNTRIES SUCH AS BRAZIL AND SPAIN.

2. IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE FINANCING SITUATION AND TO GO OVER SEVERAL TECHNICAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE
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PROJECT, THE FED ASKED VION TO COME TO BRUSSELS FOR

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CONSULTATIONS NOVEMBER 15-16. OUR FED
SOURCE SAID HE WOULD HAVE A BETTER FEEL FOR THE
SITUATION AT THE END OF THE TALKS WITH VION AND
SUGGESTED THAT WE DISCUSS THE BIDDING ELIGIBILITY
QUESTION AGAIN AT THAT TIME. WE HAVE AN APPOINTMENT
FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS NOVEMBER 19.

3. NOTE FOR ADDRESSEES: THE FED IS AN AGENCY OF
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES. IN ORDER TO ASSURE PROMPT
HANDLING OF CABLES RELATED TO FED ACTIVITES, SUCH
TELEGRAMS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO US MISSION EC
BRUSSELS RATHER THAN AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS.GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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